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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: OPTICALLY VARIABLE PIGMENTS HAVING AN ASYMMETRICAL LAYER STRUCTURE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to pigments whose particles have a length of from 2 μm to 5 μm , a width of from 2 μm to 2 μm and a thickness of from 50 nm to 1.5 μm and a ratio of length to thickness of at least 2:1, the particles having a core of a metallically reflecting material having two substantially parallel faces, the distance between which is the shortest axis of the core, comprising (a), optionally, on one parallel face of the core, an SiO_y layer wherein $0.95 < y \leq 2.0$, (b), on the SiO_y layer, an SiO_x layer wherein $0.03 < x \leq 0.95$, and (c), on the SiO_x layer, an SiO_z layer wherein $0.95 < z \leq 2.0$, to a method for the production thereof, and to the use thereof in paints, textiles, ink-jet printing, cosmetics, coating compositions, plastics, printing inks and in glazes for ceramics and glass. The pigments without an SiO_y layer produce brilliant colours. The pigments with an SiO_y layer are opaque and exhibit brilliant colours with a metallic appearance.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/50817

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C09C1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C09C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	WO 01 57287 A (SOMMER GUENTER ;ECKART STANDARD BRONZEPULVER (DE)) 9 August 2001 (2001-08-09) the whole document -----	1-10
A	WO 02 40599 A (FLEX PRODUCTS INC) 23 May 2002 (2002-05-23) abstract -----	1,2

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Information on patent family members

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